



Coptic Lesson 2: Coptic Letters Similar to English Letters

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In Lesson one, we learned the letters that look and sound like English letters.

Now let us learn a few more Coptic Letters. Below is the shape of the letter (in Caps and small), its name, and its pronunciation.

Note: not all pronunciation rules will be included, just the basic ones, to avoid confusion.

Ghamma	Ϯ Ϯ	G	<i>Good</i>
		Gh	<i>Oghnia</i> (Arabic: Song)
		NG	<i>Angel</i>

Ghamma is normally pronounced G as in ϯⲥⲓⲟϥ (A-gios = Holy, It is pronounced GH as in Ϯⲁⲃⲣⲓⲛⲁ (Ghav-riel = Gabriel) (arabic letter Ghen) if followed by any of the vowels: Ⲉ.ⲓ.ⲛ.ⲩ It is pronounced NG as in ϯⲥⲥⲉⲗⲟϥ (Angelos = Angel)

If there are two consecutive Ϯ the first is pronounced N, and the second is G.

Delta	Δ Δ	ZTH D	<i>Then</i> <i>David</i>
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Delta is normally pronounced ZTH as in Δⲱⲣⲟⲛ (Ztho-roon = gift)

It is pronounced D only if it's a person's name as in ΔⲁⲩⲓΔ (Da-Veed = David)

Lola (Lavla)	Λ Λ	L	<i>Lamb</i>
Pee	Π Π	P	<i>Paul</i>
Horee	Ϣ Ϣ	H	<i>House</i>
Jenja (Ganga)	Ϭ Ϭ	G J	<i>Go</i> <i>Joy</i>

Jenja is normally pronounced G as in ϯⲭⲡ (Agp = hour)

It is pronounced J as in Ϭⲉ (Je = For), if followed by any of the vowels: Ⲉ.ⲓ.ⲛ



Shai	Шы	Sh	Shake
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Now let's read some words using these letters, along with the ones we learned in Lesson 1:

<i>Word</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Word Meaning</i>
ԱԺԱՍ	A-dam	Adam
Քաճա	Pas-Kha	Passover
Ժաճա	Tem-Sah	Alligator
Ելաճա	He-la-hope	"Let's Go" (Arabic expression)
Քաճաճա	Pa-rak-leet	The Comforter
Մաճա	Me-sheer	The Coptic month of Amshir
Քաճաճա	Pa-Shons	The Coptic month of Pashans
Եճա	E-peep	The Coptic month of Apip
Տոճա	sok-heat	Hiccup (սոճ = close; ճա = heat)
Քոճա	Ko-lee-ra	Cholera (disease)
Օրճա	Or-gha-non	Organ (musical instrument)
Աճա	A-gios	Holy
Լոճա	Lo-tos	Lotus (flower)
Երաճա	Et-ra-pe-za	Table (Arabic: Tarabeza)
Աճա	Agapi	Love
Աճա Ելաճա	Ava Ha-deed	St. Hadid
Յաճա	Bar-ba-ra	Barbara
Քաճա	Ra-msis	Ramsis
Աճա Կր	Apa Keer	St. Ava Kir
Աճա	Ag-pia	The book of the Hours (Agpia) (Horologion)
Սոճա	Shop-ra	Shobra, Egypt



Try to read these words on your own:

Κωβαβ		"Shesh Kabab"
Σαμιτ		Pretzel
Сахар		Sugar
Сιμσιμ		Sesame
Δμοι		"I wish"
Χακι		Darkness
Ωσαννα		Osanna, Hosanna
Папа		Pope
Седрак		Sedrak
Ισραηλ		Israel
Αχπ		Hour
Χοροϋς		Chorus
Κορβαν		Holy Bread
Ξαλακ		Earrings
Ψηπωηπ		Slippers
Χωμ		Book



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